to offices of tender curteſie;
We all expect a gentle anſwere Iewe?
Iewe. I haue poſſeſt your grace of what I purpoſe,
and by our holy Sabaoth haue I ſworne
to haue the due and forfet of my bond,
if you deny it, let the danger light
vpon your charter and your Cities freedome?
Youle aske me why I rather chooſe to haue
a weight of carrion fleſh, then to receaue
three thouſand ducats: Ile not anſwer that?
But ſay it is my humour, is it anſwerd?
What if my houſe be troubled with a Rat,
and I be pleaſd to giue ten thouſand ducats
to haue it baind? vvhat, are you anſwerd yet?
Some men there are loue not a gaping pigge?
Some that are mad if they behold a Cat?
And others when the bagpipe ſings ith noſe,
cannot containe their vrine for affection.
Maſters of paſſion ſwayes it to the moode
of what it likes or loathes; now for your anſwere.
As there is no firme reaſon to be rendred,
vvhy he cannot abide a gaping pigge?
vvhy he a harmeleſſe neceſſarie Cat?
vvhy he a woollen bagpipe; but of force
muſt yeeld to ſuch inuitable ſhame,
as to offend himſelfe being offended:
So can I giue no reaſon, nor I will not,
more then a lodgd hate, and a certaine loathing
I beare *Anthonio*, that *I* follow thus
a looſing ſute againſt him; are you anſwered?
Baſſ. This is no anſwer, thou vnfeeling man,
to excuſe the currant of thy cruelty?
Iewe. *I* am not bound to pleaſe thee with my anſwers?
Baſſ. Doe all men kill the things they doe not loue?
Iewe. Hates any man the thing he would not kill?
Baſſ. Euery offence is not a hate at firſt?
Iewe. What wouldſt thou haue a ſerpent ſting thee twice?

Antho.

Anth. *I* pray you think you queſtion with the *Iewe*,
you may as well goe ſtand vpon the Beach,
and bid the maine flood bate his vſuall height,
you may as vvell vſe queſtion with the Woolfe,
vvhy he hath made the Ewe bleake for the Lambe:
You may as well forbid the mountaine of Pines
to wag their high tops, and to make no noiſe
vvhen they are fretten with the guſts of heauen:
You may as well doe any thing moſt hard,
as ſeeke to ſoften that, then which what's harder:
his *Iewiſh* hart? therefore *I* doe beſeech you
make no moe offers, vſe no farther meanes,
but with all briefe and plaine conueniencie
let me haue iudgement, and the *Iewe* his will?
Baſſ. For thy three thouſand ducats heere is ſixe?
Iewe. If euery ducat in ſixe thouſand ducats
vvere in ſixe parts, and euery part a ducat,
I would not draw them, *I* would haue my bond?
Duk. How ſhalt thou hope for mercy, rendring none?
Iewe. What iudgment ſhall *I* dread, doing no wrong?
you haue among you many a purchaſt ſlaue,
vvhich like your Aſſes, and your Dogs and Mules,
you vſe in abiect and in ſlauiſh parts,
becauſe you bought them, ſhall *I* ſay to you,
let them be free, marry them to your heires?
vvhy ſweat they vnder burthens, let their beds
be made as ſoft as yours, and let their pallats
be ſeaſond with ſuch viands; you will anſwer,
the ſlaues are ours, ſo doe *I* anſwer you:
The pound of fleſh which *I* demaund of him,
is deerely bought, as mine and *I* will haue it:
if you deny me, fie vpon your Law,
there is no force in the decrees of Venice:
I ſtand for iudgement, anſwer, ſhall I haue it?
Duke. Vpon my power *I* may diſmiſſe this Court,
vnleſſe *Bellario* a learned Doctor,
whom *I* haue ſent for to determine this,

Come